

P R A Y E R S O R
Medytacions, wherein the
 mynd is stirred, patiently to
 suffre all afflictions here, to
 set at nought the vayne pro-
 spectee of this worlde, and
 alwaie to longe for the euer-
 lastyng felicitye: Collected
 out of holy woorkes by
 the most vertuous
 and graciouse
Princesse
Kathe-
 rine
 quene of Englande
 Fraunce, and
 Irelande.
 Anno dñi.
 1545.

Coloss, iii,

If ye be risen againe with
CHRISTE seeke the thin-
ges, whiche are aboue, where
CHRISTE sitteth on the
ryght hande of god. Sette
your affection on thynges
that are aboue : and not on
thynges, whiche are on the
earth.



Moste benigne
lorde Iesu, grant
me thy grace, that
it maie alwaye
woꝝke in me, and
perseuer with me vnto the ende.

Graunte me, that I maie euer
desyre and will that, whiche is
moste pleasaunt, and moste ac-
ceptable to the.

Thy will bee my will, and my
will be to folow alway thy will.

Let there be alwaie in me one
wyl, and one desyre with the,
and that I haue no desyre to
will, oꝛ not to will but as thou
wylte.

Lorde, thou knowest what
thyng is moste profitable, and
most expedient for me.

Geue therefore what thou
wylte, as muche as thou wylte,

I it

and

PRAYERS.

and whan thou wilt.

Do with me what thou wilt,
as it shal please the, and as shal
be most to thyne honour.

Put me where thou wilt, and
freely dooe with me in all thyng-
es after thy will.

Thy creature I am, and in
thy handes, leade and turne me
where thou wilt.

Lo, I am thy seruaunt, ready
to all thynges, that thou com-
maundest: For I desire not to
liue to my selfe, but to the.

Lozde Iesu, I praie the grant
me grace, that I neuer sette my
herte on the thynges of this
wozrde, but that all woꝝdly and
carnall affections maie vtterly
die and be mortified in me.

Graunt me aboue al thynges,
that

PRAYERS.

that I may rest in the, and fully
quiet and pacifie my hert in the.
: For thou Lorde, art the verate
true peace of herte, and the per-
fect rest of the soule : and with-
out the, all thynges be greuouse
and vniquiete.

O My lorde Iesu, I beseeche the,
bee with me in euery place, and
at all tymes, and leat it be to me
a speciall solace. gladly for thy
loue to lacke all worldly solace.
And if thou withdraw thy com-
forte from me at any tyme, kepe
me, O lorde, from desperacion,
and make me patiently to abide
thy will and ordinance.

O lorde Iesu, thy iudgemen-
tes bee rightuouse, and thy pro-
vidence is muche better for me,
than all that I can imagine or

PRAYERS.

Deuise.

Wherfoze dooe with me in all thynges as it shall please the: for it maye not bee but well, all that thou doest.

If thou wilt that I bee in lyght, bee thou blessed: if thou wilt that I bee in darkenesse, be thou also blessed.

If thou vouchesafe to comforte me, be thou highly blessed: if thou wilt I liue in trouble, and withoute comforte, be thou likewise euer blessed.

Lozde, geue me grace gladly to suffre what so euer thou wylte shall fall vpon me, and patiently to take at thy hande good and badde, bytter and swete, ioye and sorowe: and for all thynges that shall befall
vnto

PRAYERS.

unto me, hartly to thanke the:
keepe me (lorde) from synne,
and I shall than neither dreade
death, nor hell.

O what thankes ought I to
gyue unto the, whiche haste suf-
fered the greuouse deathe of the
Crosse, to delyuer me from my
synnes, and to obteyne euerla-
sting life for me.

Thou gauest vs most perfect
example of patience: fulfillng
and obeiyng the wille of thy fa-
ther euen unto the death.

Make me wretched synner, o-
bediently to vse my selfe after
thy will in all thynges, and pa-
ciently to beare the burdeyne of
this corruptible life.

For though this lyfe be ted-
ous, and as an heuy burdein to

PRAYERS.

my soule: yet neuerthelesse thorough thy grace, and by example of the, it is now made much more easy, and comfortable than it was before thy incarnation and passion.

Thy holy life is our waie to the, and by following of the, we walke to the, that art our heade and Saviour: And yet excepte thou haddest gone before, and shewed vs the waie to everlasting life, who would endeavour hym selfe to followe the: seeing we be yet so slowe and dulle, hating the light of thy blessed example and holy doctrine, to lede and direct vs.

O lord Iesu, make that possible by grace, that is to me impossible by nature.

Thou

PRAYERS.

Thou knowest well, that I
maie little suffer, and that I am
anone cast downe and ouerthro-
wen with a litle aduersitee: wher-
fore I beseeche the, O lord, to
strengthen me with thy spirite,
that I maie willyngly suffre for
thy sake all maner of trouble
and affliction.

Lord, I will knowlage vnto
the, all mine vnrightuousnesse,
and I will confesse to the, all the
vnstabilenesse of my hert.

Oftentimes a veray litle thyng
troubleth me sore, and maketh
me dull and slow to serue the.

And sometime I purpose to
stande strongly, but whan a lit-
tell trouble cometh, it is to me
great anguyshe and grieve, and
of a ryght littell thyng ryseth a

A v

gre-

PRAYERS.

greuous temptation to me.

yea whan I thynke my selfe to be sure and stronge, and that (as it semeth) I haue the vpper hande: sodeynly I feele my selfe readie to fall, with a little blaste of temptation.

Beholde therfore good Lorde, my weakenesse, and consider my frailnesse, best known to the.

Haue mercy on me, and deliuer me from all iniquitee and synne, that I bee not intangled therewith.

Oftentimes it grieueth me soze, and in maner confoundeth me, that I am so vnstable, so weake, and so fraile in resistyng synfull mocions.

whiche although they drawe me not alwaie to consent, yet ne-
uer

PRAYERS.

ner the lesse their assaultes bee
beraie greuouse vnto me.

And it is tedious to me, to liue
in suche battaile, all be it I per-
ceyue, that suche battaile is not
vnp2ofitable vnto me. For ther-
by I knowe the better my selfe,
and mine owne infirmittees, and
that I muste seke helpe only at
thy handes.

O lord god of Israel, the lo-
uer of all faithful soules, bouch
safe to beholde the labour and
sorrow of me thy pooze creature.

Assiste me in all thynges with
thy grace, and so strengthe me,
with heuenly strength, that nei-
ther my cruell enemy the fiende,
neither my wretched fleshe (whi-
che is not yet subiecte to the spi-
rite) haue victorie oz dominion
ouer

PRAYERS.

ouer me.

What a life maie this be called, where no trouble noꝝ miserie lacketh: where euery place is full of snares of mortall enemies.

For one trouble oꝝ temptation ouerpasse, an other cometh by and by, and the fyꝛst conflict yet durynge, a new battaile sodainly ariseth.

Wherefoꝛe Lorde Iesu, I praise the, geue me the grace to rest in the aboue all thynges, and to quiete me in the aboue all creatures, aboue all gloꝛie and honour, aboue al dignitee and power, aboue all cunning and policie, aboue all health and beautie, aboue all rycheesse and treasure, aboue all tope and pleasure

PRAYERS.

sure, aboue all fame and pzeffe,
 aboue all myzthe and consolacti-
 on that mans herte may take oz
 feele besydes the.

For thou lord god, art beste;
 mozte wise, mozte highe, mozte
 mightie, mozte sufficient, and
 mozte full of all goodnes, mozte
 sweete, and mozte comfoztable,
 mozte faire, mozte louyng, most
 noble, mozte glozious, in whom
 all goodnesse most perfectly is.

And therfore what so euer I
 haue beside the, it is nothyng to
 me: for my hert maie not rest, ne
 fully be pacified, but only in the.

O Lorde Jesu, mozte louyng
 spouse, who shall geue me wyng-
 es of perfect loue, that I maie
 flie bp from these wo:ldly myse-
 ries, and rest in the.

D,

PRAYERS.

Whan shal I ascende to the,
and see, and feele howe sweete
thou art.

Wban shall I wholly gather
my selfe in the, so perfectly, that
I shall not foꝝ thy loue feele my
selfe, but the onely aboue my
selfe, and aboue al woꝛldly thin-
ges, that thou maiest vouches-
safe to visite me in suche wise, as
thou doest visite thy most faith-
full louers.

Nowe I often mourne and
complain of the miseries of this
life, and with sorowe and great
heauinesse suffre theim.

Foꝝ many thynges happen
daely to me, whiche oftentimes
trouble me, make me heuy, and
darken mine vnderstandyng.

They hindꝛe me greatly, and
put

PRAYERS.

put my mynde from the, and so encumbze me many waies, that I can not freely, and clerely desyre the, ne haue thy swete consolacions, whiche with thy blessed saintes be alwaie pzent.

I beseeche the, Lorde Iesu, that the sighynges and inwarde desires of my hert maie moue and incline the, to here me.

O Iesu, kyng of euerlastyng gloxie, the ioy and comfort of all chzisten people, that are wandryng as pilgrimes in the wilderness of this worlde: my hert crieth to the by still desires, and my silence speaketh vnto the, and saith: Howe longe tarieth my Lorde god to come to me:

Come, O lorde, and visite me, for without the, I haue no true ioye,

PRAYERS.

toie without the, my soule is he-
uie and sadde.

I am in prison, and bounden
with letters of sorow, till thou,
O Lord, with thy gracions pre-
sence vouchesafe to visyte me,
and to byng me again to liber-
tee and ioye of spirite, and to
shewe thy fauourable counte-
naunce vnto me.

Open my herte, Lorde, that I
maie beholde thy lawes, and tea-
che me to walke in thy comman-
dementes.

Make me to knowe and fo-
lowe thy will, and to haue al-
waies in my remembraunce thy
manyfolde benefytttes, that I
maie yelde due thanks to the
for theim.

But I knowlage and confesse
for

PRAYERS.

foz trouthe, that I am not able
to geue the condigne thanks
foz the leaste benefite that thou
haste geuen me.

O Lorde, all gyftes and ver-
tues, that any man hath in bo-
dy oꝛ soule, naturall oꝛ superna-
turall, be thy gyftes, and come
of the, and not of dur selfe, and
they declare the great richesse of
thy mercy and goodnesse vnto
vs.

And thoughe some haue mo-
gestes than other, yet they all
procede from the, and without
the, the least can not be had.

O Lorde, I accoumpt it foꝛ a
great benefite, not to haue ma-
ny worldly gestes, whereby the
laude and praise of men myght
blynd my soule, and deceiue me

B

Lorde

PRAYERS.

Loꝛde, I knowe, that no man
ought to be abashed, oꝛ miscon-
tent, that he is in a lowe estate
in this woꝛlde, and lacketh the
pleasures of this lyfe: but ra-
ther to bee gladde and reioyce
thereat.

foꝛ so muche as thou haste
chosen the pooꝛe and meke per-
sons, and suche as are despised
in the woꝛlde, to bee thy seruan-
tes and familiar frendes.

witnesse be thy blessed Apost-
les, whome thou madest chiefe
pastours and spirituall gouer-
nours of thy flocke, whychē de-
parted from the counsaile of the
Iewes, reioysyng that thei were
couñted woꝛthy to suffre rebuke
foꝛ thy name.

Euē so, O loꝛde, grant that
A

PRAYERS.

I thy seruaunt, maie be as well content, to be taken as the least, as other bee to be greatest, and that I be as wel pleased, to be in the lowest place, as in the hyst, and as glad to be of no reputation in the worlde for thy sake, as other are to be noble and famous.

Lozde, it is the worke of a perfect man, neuer to sequester his mynde frome the, and amonge many worldely cares, to goe without care: not after the manner of an ydle or a dissolute person, but by the prerogative of a fre mynde, alwaie myndyng heauenly thynges, and not cleauyng by inordinate affection to any creature.

I beseeche the therfore, my lord

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Jesus

PRAYERS.

Jesu, keepe me from the superfluous cares of this world, that I be not inquieted with bodily necessitees, ne that I bee not taken with the voluptuous pleasures of the worlde, ne of the flesh.

Preſerue me from all thynges whiche hyndre my ſoule health, that I be not ouerthrowen with them.

O Lorde God, whiche arte ſweeteneſſe vnſpeakable, tourne into bitterneſſe to me all worldly and fleſhely delites, whiche mought drawe me from the loue of eternall thynges, to the loue of ſhorte and vile pleasures.

Leat not fleſhe and bloude overcome me, ne yet the worlde with his baynglorie deceiue me,

PRAYERS.

not the fiende, with his many-
folde craftes supplant me: but
geue me gostly strength in resi-
styng theim, patience in suffe-
ryng theim, and constaunce in
perseueryng to the ende.

Geue me, for all worldely de-
lectacions, the moste swete con-
solacion of thy holy spirite, and
for all fleshely loue, indue my
soule with feruent loue of the.

Make me stronge inwardely
in my soule, and caste out ther-
of all vnpzofitable cares of this
worlde, that I bee not ledde by
vnstable desires of earthly thyn-
ges, but that I maie repute all
thynges in this worlde (as they
be) transitorie, and soone vanti-
shyng awaie, and my selfe also
with theim, drawyng towarde

PRAYERS.

myne ende.

For nothyng vnder the sonne
maie longe abide, but all is va-
nitee and affliction of spirite.

Geue me (lozde) therfoze hea-
uenly wysedome, that I maie
lerne to seke and finde the, and
aboue all thynges to loue the.

Geue me grace, to withdraue
me frome them that flatter me,
and pacientely to suffre theym
that vniustly greue me.

Lozde, whan temptation oz
tribulacion cometh, vouches-
safe to succour me, that all maie
tourne to my gostely comforte,
and paciently to suffre, and al-
waie to saie, Thy name bee
blessed.

Lozde, trouble is nowe at
hande, I am not well, but I am
great-

PRAYERS.

greately vexed with this present affliction. O moste glorious father, what Shall I dooe? anguthe and trouble are on euery syde, helpe now, I beseeche the, in this houre: thou Shalte be lauded and praysed, whan I am perfectly made meke befoze the, and whan I am clerely deliuered by the.

Maie it therfoze please the, to deliuer me: for what maie I moste synfull wretche dooe? or whither maie I goe for succour, but to the.

Geue me pacience now at this tyme in all my troubles, helpe me, lord, god, and I Shall not feare ne dreade, what troubles so euer fall vpon me.

And now, what Shall I saie

B iiii

but

PRAYERS.

but that thy wyll be doen in me,
I haue deserued to be troubled
and greued: and therfore it be-
houeth, that I suffre as longe
as it pleaseth the.

But woulde to God, that I
might suffre gladly, tyll the fu-
rious tempestes were ouerpa-
sed, and that quietnesse of herte
might come againe.

Thy myghtie hande, Lorde,
is stronge enough, to take this
trouble from me, and to assuage
the cruell asaultes therof, that
I be not ouercome with theym,
as thou haste oftentimes dooen
before this tyme, that whan I
am clerely deliuered by the, I
maie with gladnesse saie:

The right hande of him that is hygh-
est, hath made this chaunge.

Lorde

PRAYERS.

Lozde, grant me thy singulat
grace, that I maie come thither,
where no creature shall leat me,
ne kepe me from the perfect be-
holdyng of the.

Foz as longe as any transito-
rie thyng keepeth me backe, oz
hath rule in me, I maie not fre-
ly ascende to the.

O lozde, without the, nothyng
maie longe delite oz please: Foz
if any thyng shoulde be lykkyng
and sauozie, it muste be throughe
helpe of thy grace, seasoned with
the spice of thy wisdom.

O euerlastyng lyghte, farre
passing al thynges, sende doune
the beames of thy brightnesse
from aboue, and purifye and
lighten the inwarde pottes of
my hert.

PRAYERS.

Quicken my soule, and all the powers thereof, that it maie cleaue fast, and be ioyned to the inioyefull gladnesse of gostely raiſhynges.

O, whan ſhall that blessed houre come, that thou ſhalt viſite me, and gladde me with thy blessed preſeſce, whan thou ſhalt be to me all in all: verailly vntill that tyme come, there can bee no perfect ioy in me.

But alas, mine olde man, that is my carnal affections, liue ſtil in me, and are not crucified, noꝝ perfectly deade.

Foꝝ yet ſtriueth the fleſſhe againſte the ſpirite, and moueth great battaill inwardly againſt me, and ſuffereth not thy kyngdome of my ſoule to lyue in peace.

PRAYERS.

peace.

But thou, good Lorde, that
hast the lordeshyp ouer all, and
power of the sea, to assuage the
rages and surges of the same,
arise and helpe me, destroye the
power of mine ennemies, whi-
che alwaies make battayle a-
gainst me. Howe forth the great-
nesse of thy goodnesse: and leat
the power of thy right hande be
glorified in me. For there is to
me none other hope nor refuge,
but in the onely, my Lorde, my
God, to the be honour and glo-
rie euerlastyng.

O lorde, grant me, that I may
wholly resign my selfe to the,
and in al thynges to forsake my
selfe, and patiently to beare my
crosse, and to folowe the,



PRAYERS.

O Lorde, what is man, that
thou vouchsafest to haue mynd
of hym: and to visite hym?

Thou arte alwaie one, alwaie
good, alwaie rihtuouse and ho-
ly, iustely and blessedly dispo-
sing all thynges after thy wise-
dome.

But I am a wretche, and of
my self alwaie ready and prone
to euill, and doe neuer abyde in
one stare, but many tymes dooe
vary, and chaunge.

Neuerthelesse it shall be better
with me, whan it shall please
the, for thou, O lorde, onely art
he that mayest helpe me, and
thou maiest so confirme and sta-
blishe me, that my hert shall not
be chaunged from the, but bee
surely fixed, and finally rest and
be

PRAYERS.

be quieted in the.

I am nothyng els of my selfe but vanitee before the, an vnconstant creature and a feeble: and therefore, whereof make I rightfully glorie: or why should I loke to be magnified:

Who so pleaseeth hym selfe without the, displeaseth the: and he that deliteth in mannes praesynges, loseth the true p[re]s[en]ce before the.

The true p[re]s[en]ce is to bee p[re]s[en]sed of the: And the true ioye is, to reioyce in the.

Wherefore thy name (O lorde) be p[re]s[en]sed, and not myne.

Thy woorkes bee magnified and not myne, and thy goodnes be alwaies lauded and blessed.

Thou arte my glorie and the ioye

PRAYERS.

ioye of my herte, in the Shall I
gloze and reioyce, and not in
my selfe, noꝛ in any woꝛldly ho-
nour oꝛ dignitee, whiche to thy
eternall gloze compared, is but
a shadow and veraine vanitee.

O Loꝛde, we liue here in great
darknesse, and are soone decey-
ued with the vanitees of this
woꝛlde, and are soone greeued
with a littell trouble: yet if I
coulde beholde my selfe well, I
shoulde playnely see, that what
trouble so euer I haue suffered,
it hath iustly comen vppon me,
because I haue often synned,
and greuously offended the.

To metherfoze confusion and
despite is due: but to the, laude,
honour, and glozie.

Loꝛde, sende me helpe in my
trou

PRAYERS.

troubles, for mannes helpe is
little woozth.

Howe often haue I been dis-
poynted, where I thought I
should haue founde frendshyp:
And howe often haue I founde
it, where as I least thought?

Wherfore it is a bayne thyng,
to truste in man: For the true
trust and health of man, is one-
ly in the.

Blessed be thou lord therfore
in all thynges, that happeneth
vnto vs: For we be weake and
vnstable, soone deceyued, and
soone changed from one thyng
to an other.

O Lord god, most righteous
iudge, stronge and pacient, whi-
che knowest the frailtee and ma-
lice of man, bee thou my whole
strength

PRAYERS.

Strength and comfozte in all necessitees : for myne owne conscience (lorde) suffiseth not.

Wherfoze to thy mercie I doe appeale, seyng no man maie bee iustified, ne appeere righteous in thy sight, if thou examine hym after thy iustice.

O blessed mansion of thy heavenly citce : O most clere daye of eternitee, whome the night maie neuer darken.

This is the daye alwaie clere and mery, alwaie sure, and neuer chaungyng his state.

Wold to God this daye might shortly appeere and shyne vpon vs, and that this worldly fantasies were at an ende.

This daye shyneth cleerely to thy sainctes in heauen with euer
lastyng

PRAYERS.

lastyng by ghtnesse, but to vs
pilgrimes in earthe, it shyneth
obscurely, and as throughe a
mirrour or glasse.

The heauenly citelins knowe,
how ioyouse this daie is : but
we outlawes, the chyl dren of
Eue, wepe and waile the bitter
tediousenesse of our daie, that is
of this pzent lyfe, shorte and e-
uill, ful of sorowe and anguyshe.

Where man is often tymes
defiled with synne, encumbred
with affliction, inquieted with
troubles, wapped in cares, bur-
sied with vanitees, blinded with
errours, ouercharged with la-
bours, vexed with temptaci-
ons, ouercome with vaine des-
tes and pleasures of the worlde,
and greuouesly toymented with
penurie

PRAYERS.

penurie and neede.

O, when shall the ende come of
all these miseries?

When shall I bee clerely de-
lyuered from the bondage of
synne?

When shall I (Lorde) haue on-
ly mynde on the, and fully bee
glad and mery in the?

When shall I bee free with-
out lettyng, and bee in perfecte
libertee without greefe of bodie
and soule?

When shall I haue peace with-
out trouble? peace within and
without? and on euery syde sted
fast and sure?

O Lorde Iesu, whan shall I
stande and beholde the? and
haue full sight and contempla-
cion of thy glorie?

When

PRAYERS.

Whan shalte thou be to me all
in all: and whan shal I be with
the in thy kyngdome, that thou
hast ordeyned for thine elect peo-
ple from the beginnyng?

I am lefte here pooze, and as
an outlawe, in the lande of mine
ennemies, where daiely bee bat-
tailes and great misfortunes.

Comforte myne exile, asswage
my sorowe. for all my desyre is
to be with the.

It is to me an vnpleasant bur-
dene, what pleasure so euer the
worlde offereth me here.

I desyre to haue inwarde frui-
cion in the, but I can not atteyn
thereto.

I couete to cleaue fast to hea-
uenly thynges, but worldly af-
fections pluck my minde doune

PRAYERS.

warde.

I wolde subdue all yuell affections, but they daily rebel and ryle agaynste me, and will not be subiect vnto my spirite.

Thus I wretched creature, fight in my selfe, and am greivouse to my selfe, whyle my spirite desireth to be vpwarde, and contrarie, my fleſhe draweth me downewarde.

O, what ſuffre I inwardly & I go aboute to mynde heavenly thynges, and ſtreight a greatte raable of worldely thoughtes cuſſhe into my ſoule.

Therfoze lord, be not longe away, ne depart not in thy wrath from me.

Sende me the lyght of thy grace, deſtroie, in me all carnall
deſi-

PRAYERS.

Desyres.

Sende fooz the the hotte flames of thy loue, to bourn and consume the cloudy fantasies of my mynde,

Gather, O lozde, my wittes and the powers of my soule together in the, and make me to dispise all worldly thynges, and by thy grace strongly to resiste and ouercome all mocions and occasions of synne.

Helpe me, thou euerlastyng trouthe, that no worldelye gyle noz vanitee hereafter haue power to deceyue me.

Come also thou heuenly swete ueste, and lette all bitternesse of synne flee farre from me.

Pardon me, and forgeue me, as oft as in my praiser my minde

PRAYERS.

is not surely fixed on the

For many tymes I am not there where I stande or syt: but rather there, whither my thoughtes carie me.

For there I am, where my thought is, and there as customably is my thought, there is that that I loue.

And that oftentymes cometh into my mynde, that by custome pleaseth me beste, and that delighteth me most to thinke vpon.

Accordyngly as thou dooest saie in thy gospell.

Where as a mans treasure is, there is his heart.

Wherfore if I loue heauen, I speke gladly therof, and of such thynges as bee of god, and of that that aperteyneth to his honour

PRAYERS.

nour, and to the glorifyng of
his holy name.

And if I loue the worlde, I
loue to talke of worldly thinges
and I ioye anone in worldly
felicitie, and sozowe and lament
soone for worldly aduersitee.

If I loue the fleſhe, I ima-
gine oftentymes that that plea-
seth the fleſhe.

If I loue my soule, I delite
muche to speake, and to here of
thynges, that bee for my soule
helth.

And what so euer I loue, of
that I gladly here and speake,
and beare the ymages of theym
still in my minde.

Blessed is that man, that for
the loue of the, Lord, setteth not
by the pleasures of this worlde,

PRAYERS.

and lerneth truely to ouercome hym selfe, and with the seruour of spirite crucifieth his flesh, so that in a clene and a pure conscience, he maie offre his pzaiers to the, and bee accepted to haue companie of thy blessed angelles, all earthely thynges excluded from his hert.

Lozde, and holy father, bee thou blessed, nowe and euer: for as thou wilte, so is it doen, and that thou dooest, is alwaie beste,

Lette me thy humble and vnworthy seruaunt, ioye onely in the, and not in my selfe, ne in any thyng els beside the.

For thou, Lozde, arte my gladnesse, my hope, my crowne, and all myne honour,

what

PRAYERS.

What hath thy seruante, but
that he hathe of the, and that
without his desert?

All thynges be thyne, thou
hast create and made them.

I am pooze, and haue been in
trouble and peine euet from my
youth, and my soule hath been
in great heauinesse thzough ma-
nyfolde passions, that come of
the worlde and of the flesh.

Wherfoze, Lorde, I desyre,
that I maie haue of the, the ioy
of inwarde peace.

I aske of the, to come to that
reste, whiche is ordeined for thy
chosen chylzen, that bee fedde
and nourished with the lighte
of heauenly comfortes: For
without thy healpe, I can not
come to the,

C b

Lorde

PRAYERS.

Lozde, geue me peace, geue me inwarde ioye, and than my soule shall bee full of heauenly melodie, and bee deuoute and feruent in thy laudes and praisynge.

But if thou withdraue thy selfe from me (as thou haste sometyme doen) than wate not thy seruante renne the waie of thy commandementes, as I did before.

Foz it is not with me, as it was, whan the lanterne of thy gostly presence dyd shyne vpon my head, and I was defended vnder the shadowe of thy wynges from all perilles and daungers.

O merciful Lord Iesu, mer to be praised, the time is come, that thou

PRAYERS.

thou wilt proue thy seruant,
and rightfull is it, that I shall
now suffre somewhat for the.

Nowe is the houre comen,
that thou haste knowen from
the beginnyng, that thy seruant
for a tyme shuld outwardely be
set at naught, and inwardely to
leane to the.

And that he shulde be despised
in the sight of the worlde, and
bee broken with affliction, that
he mite after arise with the in a
newe light, and be clarified and
made glorious in thy kyngdom
of heauen.

O holy father, thou haste or-
deined it so to be, and it is dooen
as thou hast commaunded.

This is thy grace (O lord) to
thy friende, to suffre hym to bee
trou-

PRAYERS.

troubled in this worlde for thy
loue, howe often so euer it bee,
and of what persone so euer it
bee, and in what maner so euer
thou wilt suffice it to falle vnto
hym: for without thy wyll or
sufferance, what thyng is dooen
vpon earth?

It is good to me (O lord)
that thou hast mekened me, that
I maie therby learne to knowe
thy righteous iudgementes, and
to put from me all maner of pre-
sumpcion and statelynesse of
hert.

It is veray profitable for me,
that confusion hath couered my
face, that I maie learne thereby
rather to seeke to the for helpe
and succour, than to man.

I haue therby lerned to dread
thy

PRAYERS.

thy secreete and terrible iudgements, whyche scourgest the rightuous with the synner, but not without equitee and iustice.

Loꝛde, I yelde thanks to the, that thou haste not spared my synnes, but haste punished me with scourges of loue, and haste sente me affliction and anguishes within and without.

No creature vnder heauen maie comfort me but thou loꝛde God, the heuenly leache of mannes soule, whiche strikest and healest, whiche bꝛyngest a man nygh vnto deathe, and after restorest hym to life agayne, that he maie therby learne to knowe his owne weakenesse and imbecillitee, and the moze fully to truste in the (Loꝛde.)

Thy

PRAYERS.

Thy discipline is laied vpon
me, and thy rodde of correccion
hath taught me, and vnder that
rodde I wholly submitte me.

Strike my backe and my bo-
nes as it shall please the, and
make me to bowe my croked wil
vnto thy will.

Make me a meke and an hum-
ble Disciple, as thou hast some-
tyme done with me, that I maie
walke after thy will.

To the I committe my selfe to
be corrected: for better it is to be
corrected by the heere, than in
tyme to come.

Thou knowest all thynges,
and nothyng is hidde from the,
that is in mans conscience.

Thou knowest all thynges to
come, befoze they fall, and it is
not

PRAYERS.

not nedefull, that any man tea-
che the, or warne the of anie
thyng that is dooen vppon the
earth.

Thou knowest what is pzo-
fiteble for me, and howe much
tribulacions helpen to purge a-
waie the ruste of sinne in me.

Doe with me after thy plea-
sure, I am a synfull wretche, to
none so well known as to the.

Graunt me (Lorde) that to
knowe, that is necessary to bee
known: that to loue, that is to
bee loued: that to desire, that
pleaseth the: that to regarde,
that is pzecious in thy syght:
and that to refuse, that is vile
before the.

Suffre me not to iudge thy mi-
steries after my outward sensis,
ne

PRAYERS.

ne to geue sentence after the he-
ryng of the ignoraunt, but by
true iudgement to discerne thyn-
ges spirituall, and aboue all
thynges alwaie to serche and
folow thy will and pleasure.

O Lorde Iesu, thou arte all
my richesse, and all that I haue,
I haue it of the.

But what am I (Lorde) that
I dare speake to the? I am thy
pooze creature, and a woozme
moste abiect.

Behold, Lord, I haue nought,
and of my selfe, I am nought
woozthe, thou arte onely God,
rightuous and holy, thou orde-
rest all thynges, thou geuest
all thynges, and thou fulfyl-
lest all thynges with good-
nesse.

I am

PRAYERS.

I am a synner, barrenne and
hoide of godly vertue.

Remembze thy mercies, and
fyll my hert with plentie of thy
grace, for thou wilt not that thy
woozkes in me shoulde be made
in vayne.

Howe mate I beare the mise-
rie of this lyfe, except thy grace
and mercie dooe comfort me?

Turne not thy face from me,
deferre not thy visyng of me,
ne withd:aw not thy comfortes,
lest happely my soule be made
as drie earth without the water
of grace.

Teache me lorde, to fulfyll thy
wyl, to liue meekely, and wo:z-
thilpe befoze the, for thou arte
all my wisdom and cunnyng,
thou arte he, that knowest me

D

as

PRAYERS.

As I am, that knowest me befoze
the worlde was made, and be-
foze I was bozne oz brough
into this lyfe : to the (O lord)
be honour, glozte, and prayse
foz euer and euer. Amen.

† Laudes deum in æter-
num. Amen

A praier for
the kynge.



LORDE Iesu
Chiste, moſte
high, moſt inigh
ty, kynge of kyn-
ges, lorde of lor-
des, the only ru-
lar of princis, the veraie ſonne
of god, on whoſe ryght hande
ſittynge, dooeſt from thy throne
beholde all the dwellers vpon
earth

PRAYERS.

earth: with moste lowly hertes
 we beseeche the, vouchesafe, with
 fauourable regarde, to beholde
 our moste gracious soueraigne
 lord, kyng Edward the. vi. and
 to replenish him with the grace
 of thy holy spirite, that he all-
 waie incline to thy will, and
 walke in thy waie. Kepe hym
 farre of from ignoraunce, but
 through thy gifte leat prudence
 and knowlage alwaie abounde
 in his roiall herte: So instruct
 hym (O L O R D E I E S V) reig-
 nyng vpon vs in earth, that his
 humaine maiestee, alwaie obey
 thy deuine maiestee in fere and
 dreade. Indue hym plentifully
 with heauenly giftes. Graunt
 hym in health and wealth longe
 to lyue. Heape glorie and ho-
 nour

D ii

PRAYERS.

nour vpon hym. Glad him with
the ioye of thy countenaunce.
So strength hym, that he maie
banquishe and ouercome al his
and our foes, and be dzed and
feared of all the enemies of his
realme. Amen.

A praier for men

to safe entryng in
to battayle.



ALMIGHTIE KING
and lozde of hostes,
which by thy angel-
les therunto apoynt-
ed dooest mynister
both warre and peace, and whi-
che diddest geue vnto Dauid
bothe courage and strength, be-
yng but a littell one, vnarmed,
and vnerpert in feates of warre
with

PRAYERS.

with his sling to sette vpon and
ouerthrowe the great huge Go-
liath: our cause now being iust,
and beyng infozced to entre into
warre and battayle, we moſte
humbly beſeeche the (O Lozde
God of hoſtes) ſo to tourne the
hertes of our enemies to the de-
ſyre of peace, that no chriſtian
bloud be ſpilt, or els graunt (O
Lozde) that with ſmall effuſion
of bloud, and to the little hurte
and damage of innocentes, we
maie to thy glozie obtaine victo-
rie: and that the warres beyng
ſone ended, we maie al with one
hert and mynde, knitte together
in concozd and vnitie, laude and
praiſe the: which lyueſt and rei-
gneſt, worlde without ende.

Amen,

PRAYERS.

A deuout praier to
be dailely saied.



O ALMIGHTIE
and eternall god,
whiche vouchesa-
fest, that we, as
it were heauenly
childzen, Mulde e-
uery one of vs call the our hea-
uenly Father: Graunt, that a-
monge vs by purencesse and ex-
ample of innocent lyfe, thy most
holy name maie bee sanctified,
that all other Nations, behol-
dyng our goodnesse and vertu-
ous deedes, that thou woorkest
in vs, maie bee styred to halowe
and glorifie the. Graunte (**O**
Lozde) that the kyngedome of
thy grace and mercy mai reigne
con-

PRAYERS.

continually in our hertes, so
that we maie bee woorthy, to be
partetakers of the Realme of
gloxe and Hailestee. Graunt,
that vnto the veraie Deathe, we
refuse not to folowe thy diuine
will, and that we (accozdyng to
the example of the celestiaall cite-
sins, agreyng together quietly)
vnited in spirite, all controuer-
sie in opinions laied aparte, the
lustes of the fleshe beyng sub-
dued, and the flatterynge assaul-
tes of the woꝛlde, and the diuell
ouercom, neuer wastle against
thy moste holy will, but obey it
in all thynges. Graunt (O
Lorde) for our bodey, needefull
sustenance, that we maie the
moze freely serue the. Geue vs,
we beseeche the (O mercyfull
D iiii father)

PRAYERS.

father) that heauenly breade,
the hodge of thy sonne Iesu
Christe, the veraie foode and
helthe of our soules : Gyue vs
the breade of thy diuine precep-
tes, that we maie truely walke
and liue after thein . Gyue vs
the breade of thy heuenly word,
whiche is the stronge buttresse
and sure defence of oure soules,
that we being wel fedde and fil-
led with this foode, maie woo-
thly come to the celestiall feast,
where as is no hunger.

Graunt (Olorde) that we pa-
ciently beare and suffre our en-
emies, and suche as hurte vs :
and willingly to forgeue the of-
fences committed agaynst vs :
that so we may finde the, Lorde,
in forgeuyng vs our trespasse,
milde

PRAYERS.

milde and mercifull. Graunte
 (O Lorde) that we be not bitter-
 ly ledde into temptacion, that
 therby we shoulde bee losse: but
 in all perils of temptacion, and
 in the middes of the stormy tem-
 pestes of tribulacions, leat vs
 thy childzen, perceiue and feele
 thy fatherly succour, readie to
 helpe vs, lest that we (ouercome
 with the naughtie craftes and
 deceptes of the temptour) shuld
 be drawn into euerlastyng de-
 struction: But when we be well
 assaied, approued, and purged
 with the fire of temptaciō, than
 leat vs finishe our course, and
 so wel and valiantly fight, that
 we maie for euermore lyue with
 the, in that heuenly Citee, where
 and againste the whiche no ma-

D v

ner

PRAYERS.

her temptation can pzeualle.
 Finally graunt (moste merciful
 father) that we, thzough thy be-
 nigne goodnesse, maie be deliue-
 red from al euils pzeent and to
 come, bothe of body and soule:
 and that at the laste, the pocke
 of the soule seende beyng shor-
 ken of, we maie possesse the heri-
 tage of the heauenly kyngdom,
 whiche thy sonne, with his pre-
 cious bloude bought foꝛ vs thy
 chyldzen: and there foꝛ euer to
 haue the fruicion of celestial de-
 lectacions, accompanied with
 angelles and blessed sainctes,
 thozough the healpe benignitee
 and grace of our sauour IESV
 CHRISTE: to whome, and to
 the our father, and to the holy
 gost, be gloꝛie and honour now
 and

PRAYERS. 37

And euer. Amen.

An other praier.

O HEAVENLY FATHER,
god almighty, I praie and
beseeche thy mercy, benignely to
beholde me thy vnworthy ser-
uaunt, that I maie by gyfte of
thy holy spirite, frequently despye
thy kyngedome, that I maie
knowe thy wil, and worke ther-
after. Gene me (O lord) wylse-
dome: Make me constaunt, pa-
cient, and stronge in the. Keepe
me lord, from the sleighty inua-
sion of the olde wylve serpente.
Defende me from the counsailes
and cursynges of yuell tun-
gues. Leat thy mighty arme be
my shield agaynst all the ma-
light

PRAYERS.

Signiffee of this wicked worlde.
Remembze not (lozde) myne of-
fences: instructe, pzeare me to
repent, to be soze foꝛ my sinnes:
Make me to loue Justice and
hate wzonge, to dooe good, and
absteyne from all yuels: that I
maie be woꝛthy, to be called thy
chylde. To the bee honour and
gloꝛy foꝛ euer and euer. Amen.

A deuout pꝛaier.



LORDE, hearken
to my wordꝛ, con-
sider the thought
of myn herte. Be-
holde, howe loude
I cry vnto the. Let my iust pꝛa-
ier enter into thine eares, whiche
vnsfeignedly cometh fro myne
herte

PRAYERS.

herte. Heare me lord: for I am
pooze, and destitute of mannes
helpe. Take care for my soule:
saue me thy seruant, which whol
ly trust in the. Haue mercy vpon
me (O lord) for I will neuer
cease cryng to the for helpe.

For thou arte mylde and moze
mercifull than my tungue can
expresse. As often as aduersi-
tee assaileth me, I will crie and
call for helpe vnto the. I will
call vppon the in the daie tyme:
and in the night my crie shall
not be hydde from the. O thou
god of the heauens, the maker
of the waters, and lord of all
creatures, heare me a pooze syn-
ner, calling vpon the, and put-
tyng my wholle truste in thy
mercie, Haue mercy vpon me,
O lord

PRAYERS.

(O lord god) haue mercie vpon
on me: for thy manyfolde mer-
cies sake, forgeue all myne of-
fences.

Amen.

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